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Title: Need to check release of industrial effluents into the rivers and creeks in Paradip region of Odisha.

DR. KULAMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): I would like to state that due to frequent oil leak and release of effluents into rivers and creeks in Paradip region of Odisha has left fishermen of Jagatsinghpur district worried. Recently in the month of June, a large number of dead fishes were found floating in river Kaudia and Bata as well as in the Santra and Pattakani creeks adjacent to the IOCL at Paradip, Odisha. The oil spilled from IOCL pipeline and discharge of effluents by IOCL and other industries has led to heavy pollution of the water bodies in the region. It is well known that pollution leads to shortage of oxygen in the water bodies thereby killing fishes, prawns and crabs.

In spite of visit by the team of State Pollution Control Board, the IOCL authorities are yet to ascertain whether oil spill and release of effluents by their set up are the reasons behind drop in oxygen level in the above said rivers and creeks or there are other reasons.

In this regard, I urge upon the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas as well as the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to look into the matter and take steps to ensure pollution free water resources in the region which is the livelihood of fishermen community in the vicinity.